

## Steps to Writing about a Political Cartoon

### Step 1—Pre-Writing with Graphic Organizer

#### Circle Map

Inner circle—identifies topic—Industrial Revolution Political Cartoon

Outer circle---DESCRIBE what you see—in blue marker

Outer perimeter—interpretation in purple & historical facts in red.

### Step 2—Writing

**Black—topic sentence & concluding sentence**

**Purple—interpretation of art elements**

**Blue—description of visual**

**Red—Historical connection**

### Brief Explanation of Art Terms

Space—the amount of room various figures use inside the frame

Shading—varying degrees of darkness & light

Color—colors & traditional symbolism

Green—greed

Red—anger, love, passion

Yellow—cowardice

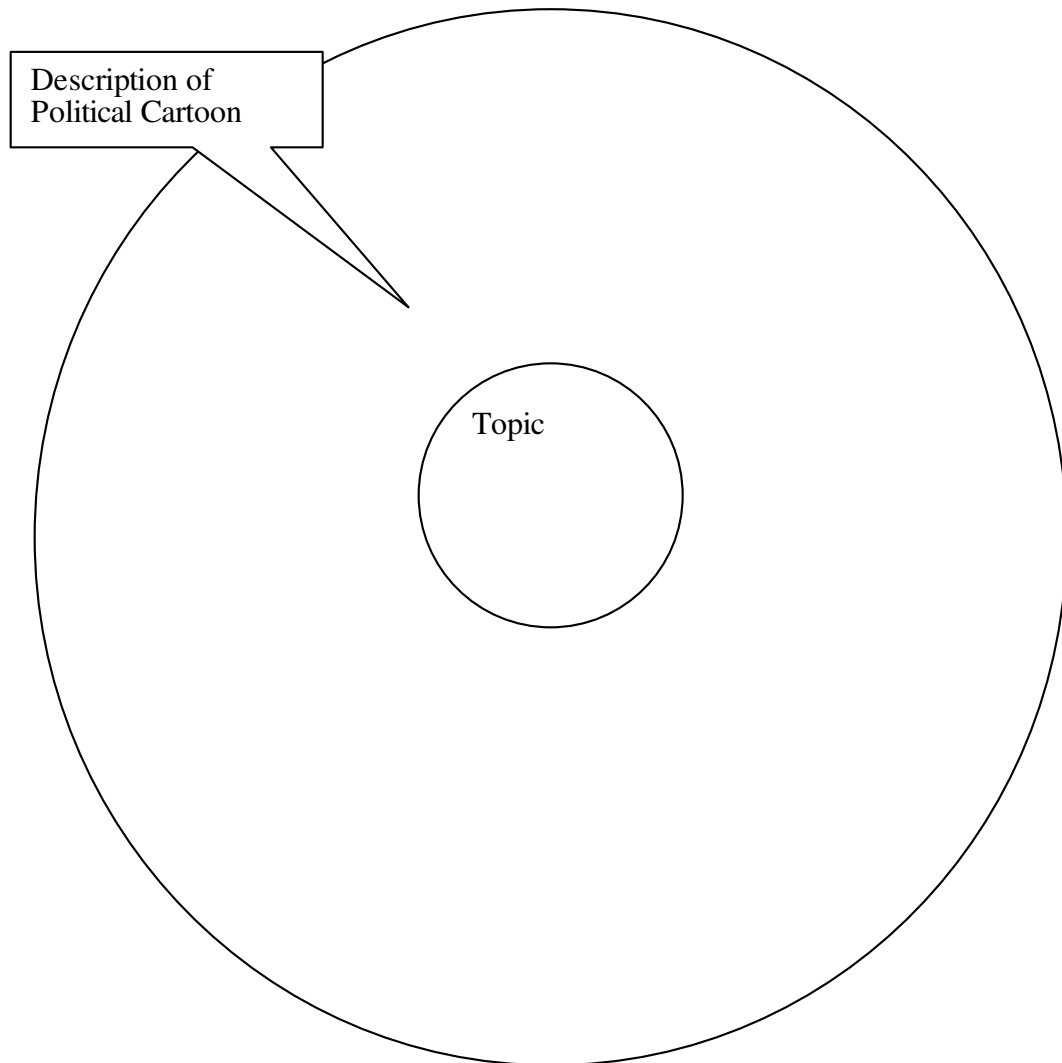
Black—evil

White—goodness

<b>Nouns</b>	<b>Verbs</b>		<b>Transitional Words</b>
Illustration	Convey	Use	First      Thereby
Artist	Expose	Utilize	Secondly
Cartoonist	Share	Show	Furthermore
Space	Express	Depict	However
Color	Illustrate		In addition to
Shading			In conclusion
Composition			Finally

## Circle Map





### Paragraph Sequence & Color Coding

1. Start students off with a topic sentence that describes the illustration. (Black)
2. Begin with one of the interpretations and write a complete sentence using one of the verbs in the list. (purple)
3. Follow with "For example" describing the element of the cartoon that supports interpretation. (blue)
4. Connect the picture to historical fact that supports interpretation. (red)

Interpretation & Historical Connection

5. **Begin with one of the interpretations and write a complete sentence using one of the verbs in the list. (purple)**
6. **Follow with “For example” describing the element of the cartoon that supports interpretation. (blue)**
7. **Connect the picture to historical fact that supports interpretation. (red)**
8. **Wrap up the paragraph by restating the topic sentence. (Black)**

### **SAMPLE PARAGRAPH**

**The artist expresses his view of the negative effects of industrialization on the workers. First, the artist uses space to illustrate the difference in wealth between the factory workers and the factory owners. For example, the factory owner takes up 70% of the picture, while the workers take up only 30% of the frame. The use of space reflects the distribution of wealth where “9% of the population controlled 75% of the wealth.” Secondly, the artist uses shading to convey the importance of the factory owner over the workers. For example, the owner is shaded in a dark manner with great details while the workers are part of a faded background. The use of shading exposes the theory of Social Darwinism where only the strong survive, and in this illustration only the factory owner survives. In conclusion, this illustration depicts the inequality between the different social classes during the Industrial Revolution**